

NON-TANK VESSEL OIL SPILLS

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard concluded a hearing to examine oil spills from non-tank vessels, focusing on threats, risks, and vulnerabilities, after receiving testimony from Admiral Thad Allen, Commandant, United States Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security; Mary Glackin, Deputy Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; Susan A. Fleming, Director, Physical Infrastructure Issues, Government Accountability Office; Mike Cooper, Washington State Oil Spill Advisory Council, Olympia; Dagmar Schmidt Etkin, Environmental Research Consulting, Cortlandt Manor, New York; and William G. Deaver, Totem Ocean Trailer Express, Federal Way, Washington.

NOMINATION

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Jon Wellinghoff, of Nevada, to be a member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Prior to this action, committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Jon Wellinghoff, of Nevada, to be a member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Bingaman, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee ordered favorably reported the following:

S. 1189, to designate the Federal building and United States Courthouse located at 100 East 8th Avenue in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, as the "George

Howard, Jr. Federal Building and United States Courthouse";

H.R. 735, to designate the Federal building under construction at 799 First Avenue in New York, New York, as the "Ronald H. Brown United States Mission to the United Nations Building";

S. 862, to designate the Federal building located at 210 Walnut Street in Des Moines, Iowa, as the "Neal Smith Federal Building"; and

The nominations of Kristine L. Svinicki, of Virginia, and Gregory B. Jaczko, of the District of Columbia, both to be Members of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

NOMINATION

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Steven H. Murdock, of Texas, to be Director of the Census, Department of Commerce, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Hutchison, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Ondray T. Harris, of Virginia, to be Director, Community Relations Service, David W. Hagy, of Texas, to be Director of the National Institute of Justice, Cynthia Dyer, of Texas, to be Director of the Violence Against Women Office, and Nathan J. Hochman, of California, to be an Assistant Attorney General, who was introduced by Senator Coleman, all of the Department of Justice, and Scott M. Burns, of Utah, to be Deputy Director of National Drug Control Policy, after the nominees testified and answered questions on their own behalf.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 63 public bills, H.R. 4774–4836; and 14 resolutions, H.J. Res. 71–73; H. Con. Res. 272; and H. Res. 883–892 were introduced. **Pages H16832–34**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H16834–35**

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows: H.R. 1834, to authorize the national ocean exploration program and the national undersea research program within the National Oceanic and Atmos-

pheric Administration, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–311, Pt. 2). **Page H16832**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Solis to act as Speaker Pro Tempore for today. **Page H16645**

Suspensions—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures which were debated on Monday, December 17th:

Veterans Guaranteed Bonus Act of 2007: H.R. 3793, amended, to amend title 37, United States

Code, to require the Secretary of Defense to continue to pay to a member of the Armed Forces who is retired or separated from the Armed Forces due to a combat-related injury certain bonuses that the member was entitled to before the retirement or separation and would continue to be entitled to if the member was not retired or separated, by a 2/3 yeas-and-nay vote of 405 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 1176 and

Pages H16658–59

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: "To amend title 37, United States Code, to require the continued payment to a member of the uniformed services who dies or is retired or separated under chapter 61 of title 10, United States Code, bonuses and similar benefits that the member was entitled to before the death, retirement, or separation of the member and would be paid if the member had not died, retired, or separated, to prohibit requiring the member to repay any portion of the bonuses or similar benefits previously paid, and for other purposes."

Page H16659

Expressing the unconditional support of the House of Representatives for the members of the National Guard: H. Res. 542, amended, to express the unconditional support of the House of Representatives for the members of the National Guard, by a 2/3 yeas-and-nay vote of 408 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 1180.

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Renewable Fuels, Consumer Protection, and Energy Efficiency Act of 2007: The House agreed to the Senate amendment to the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 6, to move the United States toward greater energy independence and security, to increase the production of clean renewable fuels, to protect consumers, to increase the efficiency of products, buildings, and vehicles, to promote research on and deploy greenhouse gas capture and storage options, and to improve the energy performance of the Federal Government, by a yeas-and-nay vote of 314 yeas to 100 nays, Roll No. 1177.

Pages H16651–H16752

H. Res. 877, the rule providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the House amendment to the Senate amendment, was agreed to by a yeas-and-nay vote of 215 yeas to 190 nays, Roll No. 1175, after agreeing to order the previous question by a yeas-and-nay vote of 220 yeas to 187 nays, Roll No. 1174.

Pages H16657–58

Committee Elections: The House agreed to H. Res. 885, electing the following Members to serve on certain standing committees of the House of Representatives: Committee on Agriculture: Representative Latta. Committee on Energy and Commerce: Representative Blunt (to rank after Representative Fossella). Committee on Foreign Affairs: Representa-

tive Wittman (VA). Committee on Science and Technology: Representatives Latta and Wittman (VA).

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Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Sudan Accountability and Divestment Act of 2007: S. 2271, to authorize State and local governments to divest assets in companies that conduct business operations in Sudan and to prohibit United States Government contracts with such companies, by a 2/3 yeas-and-nay vote of 411 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 1179—clearing the measure for the President;

Pages H16753–60, H16767–68

Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2007: Agreed to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2761, to extend the Terrorism Insurance Program of the Department of the Treasury, by a yeas-and-nay vote of 360 yeas to 53 nays, Roll No. 1178—clearing the measure for the President;

Pages H16760–67

Mortgage Forgiveness Debt Relief Act of 2007: Agreed to the Senate amendment to H.R. 3648, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude discharges of indebtedness on principal residences from gross income—clearing the measure for the President;

Pages H16768–72

Providing for the concurrence by the House in the Senate amendments to H.R. 3997, with an amendment: H. Res. 884, providing for the concurrence by the House in the Senate amendments to H.R. 3997, with an amendment, by a 2/3 yeas-and-nay vote of 411 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 1181;

Pages H16772–88, H16795

OPEN Government Act of 2007: S. 2488, to promote accessibility, accountability, and openness in Government by strengthening section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the Freedom of Information Act)—clearing the measure for the President; and

Pages H16788,92

U.S. Capitol Police and Library of Congress Police Merger Implementation Act of 2007: Agreed to the Senate amendment to H.R. 3690, to provide for the transfer of the Library of Congress police to the United States Capitol Police, by a 2/3 yeas-and-nay vote of 413 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 1182—clearing the measure for the President.

Pages H16792–94, H16795–96

Committee Resignation: Read a letter from Representative Wittman of Virginia, wherein he resigned from the Committee on Science and Technology, effective today.

Pages H16792

Committee Resignation: Read a letter from Representative Latta of Ohio, wherein he resigned from

the Committee on Science and Technology, effective today. **Page H16792**

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Hoyer and Representative Van Hollen to act as Speaker pro tempore to sign enrolled bills and joint resolutions through January 15, 2008. **Page H16796**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H16796.

Senate Referrals: S. 2499 was held at the desk.

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Quorum Calls—Votes: Nine yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H16657–58, H16658, H16658–59, H16752, H16766–67, H16767–68, H16768, H16795, H16796. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 10:50 p.m.

Committee Meetings

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY AND MODERNIZATION ACT; CAMERON GULBRANSEN KIDS AND CARS SAFETY ACT OF 2007

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Ordered reported, as amended, the following bills: H.R. 4040, Consumer Product Safety and Modernization Act, and H.R. 1216, Cameron Gulbransen Kids and Cars Safety Act of 2007.

The Committee also approved pending Committee business.

OVERSIGHT—LEGACY OF TRANS-ATLANTIC SLAVE TRADE

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties held an oversight hearing on the Legacy of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade. Testimony was heard from JoAnn Watson, member, City Council, City of Detroit, Michigan; and public witnesses.

PRIVACY AND CYBERCRIME ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2007

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security held a hearing on H.R. 4175, Privacy and Cybercrime Enforcement Act of 2007. Testimony was heard from Andrew Lourie, Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney

General and Chief of Staff to the Criminal Division, Department of Justice; Craig Magaw, Special Agent, Criminal Investigative Division, U.S. Secret Service, Department of Homeland Security; Joel Winston, Associate Director, Division of Privacy and Identity Protection, Bureau of Consumer Protection, FTC; and public witnesses.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2007

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety and Security, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, focusing on truck driver hours-of-service (HOS) rules and truck safety, 10 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Charles W. Larson, Jr., of Iowa, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Latvia, and Mary Ann Glendon, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to the Holy See, 9:30 a.m., SD–419.

Full Committee, to receive a closed briefing on Kosovo, focusing on future challenges, 11 a.m., S–407, Capitol.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to consider the nomination of Mark R. Filip, of Illinois, to be Deputy Attorney General, Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SD–226.

House

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights, and Oversight, hearing on the Extension of the United Nations Mandate for Iraq: Is the Iraqi Parliament Being Ignored? 10 a.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security, hearing on Enforcement of Federal Criminal Law to Protect Americans Working for U.S. Contractors in Iraq, 10:15 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, executive, briefing on Hot Sports—Venezuela, Australia, and Pakistan, 8:45 a.m., executive, briefing on NIE, 10 a.m., and, executive, to consider pending Committee business, 1 p.m., H–405 Capitol.

Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming, hearing entitled “After Bali—UN Conference and the Impact on International Climate Change Policy,” 12 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.